Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—Regarding this department, I must say that we have done a good deal for Chittur taluk due to the representations made by the Hon'ble Member ever since the beginning of this Council.

Pay of Doctors G. M. D'Souza and P. Gouri Ammal.

188. **Mrs. Swaris.**—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) the number of years' service Dr. G. M. D'Souza had put in and the salary she was drawing prior to her going to England for higher medical studies;

(b) the salary she was given on her return and her present grade of pay ;

(c) the number of years' service Dr. P. Gouri Ammal had put in and the salary she was drawing prior to her going to England for higher studies in medicine ;

(d) whether she was given on her return the same salary as was offered to Dr. D'Souza ?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—(a) 6 years. Rs. 97—8—0.

(b) Rs. 200; Rs. 200—400.

(c) 11 years. Rs. 100.

(d) No. But her pay was raised to Rs. 150 from 1st Chingam 1108.

Mrs. Swaris—Will the Government be pleased to state whether this statement that Dr. Gouri Ammal was given Rs. 150 from 1st Chingam 1108 is correct?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—Yes.

Mrs. Swaris—Was she given Rs. 150 from 1st Chingam 1108?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—Yes. She was given Rs. 125 on her return from England and Rs. 150 when she made a representation to the Government.

Mrs. Swaris—Why was she not given Rs. 200?

President.—The question time is over.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—The President can very well extend the time, when a question is left unanswered.

President.—I have no objection to extend the time.

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—The Government allowed her the minimum pay that was allowed in the grade.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Why was this invidious difference between these two?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—Due to financial stringency Government said that they cannot raise her pay.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.— Has the pay of any other officer been raised?

President.—That is not a supplementary question.

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Mrs. Swaris.—Was not the pay of several officers raised since Dr. Gouri Amma represented her case?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—I want notice.

Mr. Joseph Pettah.—Was any representation made by Dr. Gouri Amma for getting Rs. 200?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—Yes.

Mr. Joseph Pettah.—Has she not even superior claim than Dr. D'Souza on her return from England?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—No.

Mr. Joseph Pettah.—Considering that she was drawing a higher pay and had put in more service than Dr. D'Souza had not Dr. Gouri Amma a better claim for consideration than Dr. D'Souza?

Dr. D Raghavendra Rao.—I don't quite follow the question.

Mr. Joseph Pettah.—Considering that Dr. Gouri Amma had put in 11 years' service and was drawing Rs. 100 before she went to England, whereas Dr. D'Souza had put in only 6 year's service and was drawing only Rs. 97—8—0, had she not a better claim?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—It cannot be considered as a superior claim.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—Was not the present Chief Medical Officer appointed as Civil Surgeon when he returned from England?

President.—That question does not arise in this particular question.

Dr. A. R. Menon.— The pay of Dr. D'Souza was Rs. 97—8—0 when she left here with 6 years' service and when she returned from England she was appointed on Rs. 200, while the pay of Dr. Gouri Amma was Rs. 100 when she left for England with 11 years' service. Does the Chief Medical Officer want us to believe that both of them are in the same footing so far as service and their claims are concerned?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—The question is not quite clar.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—I would make it as clear as I can. Dr. D'Souza was drawing Rs. 97—8—0 that is to say less than Rs. 100 and she had put in 6 year's service which is less than 11 years. So, in the matter of service and pay Gouri Amma was in a better position when she left this place. Miss D'Souza when she came was given Rs. 200 and Mrs. Gouri Amma was given Rs. 120 which was raised to Rs. 140 after two representations. The question is, was there not a prior claim, at least an equal claim, if not a better claim, so far as both the parties are concerned?

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Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—Yes.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—What was the reason in making this invidious distinction in spite of the protest of this Council?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—As regards D'Souza it was a thing which was settled 8 years ago whereas as far as Gouri Amma is concerned it is a recent thing. And again she has petitioned to the Government and that petition is under consideration.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Does the Government think that the Cochin Government has come to a more embarassed financial condition during the last 8 years so that they cannot afford to do what is just and proper?

Mr. P. V. Subramania Ayyar.—The fact is, the pay is not fixed in accordance with personalities.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—Is it not?

Mr. P. V. Subramania Ayyar.—Several grades have been fixed for the several posts. Dr. D'Souza was posted to a place that carried Rs. 200.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Which is that place?

Mr. P. V. Subramania Ayyar.—Assistant Surgeon's grade.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Maximum? Is it not so?

Mr. P. V. Subramania Ayyar.—I cannot remember.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—You ought to remember, Sir. I am here to ask questions. It is not my duty to remember. You are to furnish answers. Is it not the fact that Rs. 200 is the pay?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—Yes. It is Rs. 125—200.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Why was not the maximum given in the other case? Is it not due to personality? What was it that induced the Government to give her the maximum?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—If you take the same analogy there are so many other officers also.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Please give me an answer to the question. Is it not reasonable, is not the duty to do what is right and proper?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—Certainly it is the duty to do what is right and proper.

Mr. M. Krishna Menon.—Did the Chief Medical Officer recommend that maximum should be given in this particular case?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—No.

Mr. M. Krishna Menon.—Was such a recommendation sent in the case of D'Souza?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—I do not know.

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Dr. A. R. Menon.—Would you be in a position to find it just now?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—Not just now.

Mr. M. Krishna Menon.—Was it a volunatry gift on the part of the Government—giving the maximum to this D' Souza?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—This was done eight years age.

Mr. M. Krishna Menon.—Does the Government generally pass orders giving maximum pay without recommendation from the Chief Medical Officer ?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—I can't say.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Is it not the fact that before an enhancement of pay is effected, generally the increase of pay depends upon the recommendation of the Head of the Department?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—Generally so.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Therefore, we may reasonably presume that the Chief Medical Officer at that time advocated the claim of Miss. D'Souza. Is it not ?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—I can't say.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Why did you not recommend the maximum in the case of Gouri Amma ?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—Before anything can be done Gouri Amma represented her case directly to the Diwan and the Diwan passed orders.

Mr. K. G. Nayar.—Has this spirit of financial stringency weighed with the Government in their actions during the last eight or ten years ?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—I want notice.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—On a point of information, may I know, Sir, when Dr. Gouri Amma returned from England ?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—More than a year ago.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Was not the pay of the Chief Medical Officer raised during that period?

President.—That is not a supplementary question.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—This Council had brought this matter to the notice of the Government on a previous occasion. We would like to know whether the Government will reconsider this case and cases of a similar nature before they help themselves.

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—I have already stated that this case is receiving consideration at the hands of the Government.

Mrs. Swaris.—Will the Chief Medical Officer kindly say whether he has recommended the maximum pay ? Is it confidential ?

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Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—Her case is receiving consideration. The Government sympathises with Dr. Gouri Amma's case.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—We would like to know how the Heads of Departments are discharging their duties towards their subordinates.

President.—This is question time. You cannot ask for that information now.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—I bow to your ruling, Sir. Did you make any recommendation to the Government on the petition of Dr. Gouri Amma?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—Yes. I have made a recommendation.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—May I know whether after Dr. Gouri Amma's return to Cochin any person of the same qualification has been taken in the Government service?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—No.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—May I know the qualification of Dr. E. S. R. Menon?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—It is not my department.

President.—I overrule the question.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—I bow to your ruling.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—I have one question to ask.

President.—You are interested in Gouri Amma's case. On behalf of the Government an answer was given that the case of Dr. Gouri Amma will be sympathetically considered.

Mr. P. S. Kesavan Nambudiri.—Sir, as a personal explanation I may be permitted to say a few words. Yesterday in your concluding speech you said that 'Mr. Nambudiri said'. I do not know whether it refers to me or the Hon'ble Member for Jenmies.

President.—I did not mention any name. To the best of recollection I think that my I said that I will abstain from mentioning personalities.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—The difficulty is that each one thinks that it affects him.

President.—I assure our young and energetic friend that I never meant anything against him. In fact I have got the greatest respect for Nambudiris.

Women and Children's Hospitals—Trichur and Mattancheri—work in.

189. **Mrs. Swaris.**—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

the number of beds, operations, in-patients and out-patients in the Women and Children's Hospitals at Mattancheri and Trichur respectively for one year from Meenam 1107 to Meenam 1108?

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